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Grain and Feed

EU grain intervention standards updated with maximum Fusarium levels

2005

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Report Highlights:

From July, 2006, there are new maximum permissible levels for fusarium toxins originating in grains for some grain and grain products. As of July 2005, for the start of the 2005/06 Marketing Year, these limits will be applied to grain offered into intervention.

While the limit for corn has yet to be set by the Commission, the maximum level defaults to 1,750 ppb if the Commission has not established a level by July 2007. The Commission is preparing fusarium limits for grain transformed into feed products.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Brussels USEU [BE2]Unscheduled Report
[E3]

Recent changes to the maximum permissible levels in fusarium toxins originating in grains have been applied to grain offered into intervention from the 2005/06 Marketing Year published in Commission Regulation [1068/2005](#)¹. The maximum permitted level of DON (*deoxynivalenol*) in wheat is set at 1,250 ppb (parts per billion). For corn, there is still no level set. If the Commission does not specify a level, then it becomes 1,750 ppb as of July 1, 2007². It is not clear whether all of the corn grown in Hungary would be able to meet these limits. The fusarium limits for processed food enter into force on July 1, 2006, however, the Commission argues that the changes need to be made now to intervention specifications for MY 05/06 (but not to present intervention stocks) to ensure that future releases of intervention grains conform to the fusarium limits.

Full details of the fusarium limits, which include limits placed on finished grain based products such as bread and pasta, can be found in GAIN report [E35115](#)³, as well as in Commission Regulation [856/2005](#). It should also be noted that the Commission is in the process of establishing maximum levels for deoxynivalenol (DON), zearalenone (ZEA) and ochratoxin A in feed.

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Report Number	Title	Date Released
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E35123	EU Commission launches tender for 5 MMT grain export subsidies for MY 05/06	June 2005
E35115	Maximum levels for fusarium in food published	June 2005
E35073	Guidance Document for Aflatoxin Controls	April 2005

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¹ http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2005/l_174/l_17420050707en00650068.pdf

² There is no level set for corn in the main Fusarium Regulation, once a level is set, it would apply to EU corn and corn imports too.

³ <http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200506/146130053.pdf>